

~~excessive~~ resistance to flow through said filtering element occurs.

2. (Amended) [Liquid] A liquid filtering apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said valve means [may include] comprises valves on opposite sides of said filtering element, said valves being adapted to be simultaneously opened and closed to reverse [the] said flow of liquid through said filtering element.

3. (Amended) [Liquid] A liquid filtering apparatus according to Claim 2, [and including] comprising a further valve which is opened upon reversing [the] said flow through said filtering element to direct [the] said reverse flow to waste.

4. (Amended) [Liquid] A liquid filtering apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said valve means include a movable valve member, said filter element being coupled to said valve member and being adapted to move said valve member to reverse [the] said flow of liquid through said filtering element.

4 5. (Amended) [Liquid] A liquid filtering apparatus according to [c]Claim ~~1~~, wherein said valve means comprises a first fixed duct having spaced apart ports therein on opposite sides of said filtering element, and wherein said movable valve member is movable to control [the] opening and closing of said ports.

5. (Amended) [Liquid] A liquid filtering apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said filtering element comprises a porous membrane.

7. 6 (Amended) [Liquid] A liquid filtering apparatus according to Claim ~~6~~, ⁵ wherein said filtering element separates said chamber into first and second parts, said valve means controlling [the] a supply of liquid to said first and second parts of said chamber.

8. 7 (Amended) [Liquid] A liquid filtering apparatus according to Claim ~~1~~, [and including] comprising means for opposing movement of said valve member to [its] a backwashing position.

9. (Amended) [Liquid] A liquid filtering apparatus according to [c]Claim ~~8~~, ⁷ wherein said opposing means comprises

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one of a biased element [or] and elements adapted to cooperate with said valve member upon a predetermined movement thereof.

9.10. (Amended) [Liquid] A liquid filtering apparatus according to Claim ~~8~~⁷ wherein said opposing means comprises a spring which urges said valve member towards [its] a normal filtering position.

11. (Amended) [Liquid] A liquid filtering apparatus [including] comprising a chamber, and inlet to said chamber for liquid to be filtered and an outlet for said filtered liquid, [and] a discharge outlet, a filtering membrane in said chamber, [and] separating said chamber into first and second parts, and first valve means for varying [the] a direction of liquid flow through said chamber and said filtering element, said valve means in a first attitude causing said liquid to flow in a first direction through said chamber and said membrane for filtering of said liquid, said valve means in a second attitude causing liquid to flow through said chamber and said membrane in a second direction, opposite said first direction, for backwashing said membrane, said valve means being operable to reverse [the] said direction of liquid flow through said filtering membrane when ~~excessive~~ resistance to flow through said filtering membrane during filtering of said liquid occurs.

Two 12/9/99 Claim 12, line 34, delete "Liquid" and insert --A liquid--; and

Two 12/9/99 line 34, after "11" insert --,--.

Claim 13, line 1, delete "Liquid" and insert --A liquid--; and

line 1, after "12" insert --,--.

14.¹² (Amended) [Liquid] A liquid filtering apparatus according to Claim ~~13~~¹¹ [and including] comprising further valve means for controlling communication of said second part of said chamber with waste, said further valve means being open in said second attitude of said valve means.